

CLASSIFICATION SECRETCOUNTRY Austria REPORTTOPIC Soviet Troops in Melk, Mauer Oehling and Ganing

25X1

EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED DATE PREPARED 30 March 1955

25X1

REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

25X1

REMARKS This is UNEVALUATED Information

25X1

1. On 16 February 1955, 2 majors wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia and a lieutenant colonel wearing black-bordered black epaulets with signal insignia were observed at the Birago Kaserne in Melk (O 49/W 68). The kaserne was guarded by a sentry who wore red-bordered black epaulets. The silhouettes of 3 guns were observed through two of the storage shed doors which stood half open. Thirty-two soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets and carrying field packs, three soldiers carrying aiming circle containers and three soldiers carrying tripods were led by 2 captains wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. The group returned to the Birago Kaserne from the direction of the meadows on the Danube River. Motor vehicles which were parked in the area of the installation included 4 trucks, 2 van-like motor vehicles, 2 jeeps and a sedan. Trucks and van-like motor vehicle all with drivers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and jeep B 8-71-70 with a driver wearing black-bordered red epaulets were observed at the installation. 1

25X1
25X1
2. On 17 February 1955, a lieutenant colonel and 3 majors, all of them wearing red-bordered black epaulets, a lieutenant colonel and 2 majors, all of them wearing black-bordered red epaulets, and a major wearing black-bordered black epaulets left the former Landesheilanstalt (district mental hospital) building in Mauer Oehling (O 49/W 26). The hospital was guarded by a sentry who wore black-bordered red epaulets. Thirty motor vehicles and another estimated 15 motor vehicles were parked under shedroofs, while 8 trucks, 2 van-like motor vehicles and 2 tank trucks were parked in the open. About 50 soldiers were observed sweeping snow. Motor vehicles observed entering or leaving the area of the installation included truck sedan jeep all with drivers wearing black-bordered red epaulets, driving-school trucks ambulance all with drivers wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and tank truck. Thirty soldiers practiced aiming with rifles and penetrating positions in the small training area northeast of the installation. Two telephone squads, each of which included a squad leader and 2 soldiers with field telephones and reels, were also observed erecting telephone lines there. 2

25X1
25X1
25X1
25X1
25X1

NOINDEX

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECRET

25X1

-2-

3. On 14 February 1955, a lieutenant colonel and 2 majors, all wearing black-bordered red epaulets, and a major wearing red-bordered black epaulets were observed at the former convent in Garing (O 48/W 45). The convent was guarded by a sentry who wore black-bordered red epaulets. Eighteen soldiers who wore black-bordered red epaulets and were led by a sergeant wearing black-bordered red epaulets practiced aiming with automatic rifles and throwing egg-shaped hand grenades in the garden of the convent. Five soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets who carried field telephones, reels and lance poles and were led by a sergeant wearing black-bordered red epaulets returned to the convent. Trucks [] with drivers wearing black-bordered red epaulets left this site. Sedan [] with a driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets which came from the direction of Scheibbs (O 49/W 56) departed toward Scheibbs after being parked in the area of the convent. 2
- 25X1
- 25X1
1. [] Comment. The Birago Kaserne quarters the 233d Gds Gun Arty Regt of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div. The motor vehicles observed are stationed at St.Poelten, Faden and Melk. 25X1
2. [] Comment. The 290th Gds Mtz Rifle Regt of the 95th Gds Mtz Rifle Div is stationed at the former Mauer Oehling Landesheilanstalt (district mental hospital) and in Garing. Most of the motor-vehicle numbers observed belong to these stations. It is still undetermined whether the automatic rifle which is mentioned in the present report represents the known type of half-automatic rifle or a new model of a clip-fed assault rifle. 25X1

SECRET